

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USUN NEW YORK 2908

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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GLOBAL TERRORISM

SUMMARY CORRIRE DELLA SERA SEPTEMBER 2 CARRIES FRONT PAGE Q&A INTERVIEW IN WEST BEIRUT WITH ABU AYAD, IDENTIFIED AS PLO'S "NUMBER 2" MAN. AYAD IS QUOTED AS SAYING PLO IS PREPARED TO MAKE MAJOR CONCESSIONS TO ATTAIN PEACE UNDER ARAB LEAGUE PLAN AND TO MAKE A PHASED WITHDRAWAL TO REFUGEE CAMPS PROVIDED SYRIA SIMILARLY WITHDRAWS FROM LEBANON. ALTERNATIVE, SHOULD THESE "LAST CONCESSIONS" NOT BE ACCEPTED, WOULD BE TO SEE "A SAVAGE GUERRILLA EXPLOSION IN THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE WORLD WITH ACTIONS SUCH AS WE HAVE NEVER BEFORE CONTEMPLATED." END SUMMARY

1. AYAD APPEALS THROUGH CORRIERE FOR ASSISTANCE OF EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY ITALY, IN PROHIBITING THE MASSACRE OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND, AT SAME TIME, TO PUT THE GREAT POWERS AND ARAB ENEMIES ON GUARD. "IF THEY DO NOT STOP MACHINE OF WAR, IF WE ARE PUSHED TO DESPERATION, THE LAST PATRIOT WILL BE TRANSFORMED INTO THE LAST TERRORIST." IF THESE FINAL CONCESSIONS, GOING BEYOND WHICH WOULD MEAN "THE SUICIDE OF THE FEDAYEEN MOVEMENT, ARE NOT ACCEPTED WE WILL RESIST TO THE LAST MAN." WE KNOW WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST BUT THE WORLD SHOULD KNOW THAT IF REACTIONARY FORCES BACK US TO THE WALL THERE WILL BE A TREMENDOUS EXPLOSION OF TERRORISM."

2. "WE ARE READY TO LAY DOWN OUR ARMS AND TO MAKE EVERY CONCESSION COMPATIBLE WITH THE SURVIVAL OF THE PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE, BUT DAMASCUS WILL NOT EVEN DISCUSS (THE MATTER). WE ARE PREPARED TO WITHDRAW OUR FORCES FROM THE MOUNTAINS, FROM THE MAJOR PART OF BEIRUT, FROM THE STRONGHOLD OF JEZZIN; WE ACCEPT THE PEACE PLAN OF THE ARAB LEAGUE. WE ARE PREPARED TO RE-ENTER THE REFUGEE CAMPS AND TO RESPECT THE ACCORDS SIGNED AT CAIRO WITH THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT. THESE ARE CONDITIONS POSED BY OUR ADVERSARIES. BUT THE SYRIANS WILL ALSO HAVE TO WITHDRAW."

3. "WE WOULD LEAVE THE MOUNTAINS, BEIRUT AND JEZZIN IN EXCHANGE FOR A MINIMUM DRAWBACK BY THE SYRIANS FROM THE PRESENT LINE. IN A SECOND PHASE WE WOULD RE-ENTER THE CAMPS, BUT AT THAT TIME THE SYRIANS WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY AND THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN MOSLEM AND CHRISTIAN WHICH WOULD PERMIT US TO TREAT WITH THE LEBANESE STATE AUTHORITY. UNCLASSIFIED

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4. DUCKING A QUESTION WHETHER THE PLO WOULD GIVE UP ITS "HEAVY ARMAMENT", AYAD SAID THAT "AFTER THE ISRAELI ATTACKS OF 1973, THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT GAVE THE PALESTINIANS THE RIGHT TO KEEP IN THEIR REFUGEE CAMPS ANY KIND OF ARMS, BECAUSE BEIRUT WAS NOT IN A POSITION TO DEFEND (EVEN) ITSELF. EVEN MORE, THE GOVERNMENT REQUESTED ARMS FROM ARAB COUNTRIES TO GUARANTEE OUR SAFETY; NOW IT IS THOSE ARMS THAT THE RIGHTISTS ARE USING TO DESTROY US.

5. THE ARAB LEAGUE SUMMIT IS LIKELY TO SOLVE NOTHING "GIVEN ALL THE CONTRADICTIONS AND DIVISIONS OF THE ARAB WORLD." THE ITALIAN PEOPLE "HAVE ALWAYS SUPPORTED JUST CAUSES. WE APPRECIATE THE POLITICAL AND MATERIAL AID THAT HAS BEEN ARRIVING RECENTLY FROM ITALY FOR LEBANESE AND PALESTINIANS. WE ALSO KNOW THAT THE VATICAN IS IN ITALY (AND) HOW MUCH INFLUENCE IT CAN HAVE ON THOSE FORCES WHICH, BEHIND THE CROSS, PLOT ALL THAT WHICH THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION CONDEMNS. WE THANK THE VATICAN FOR THAT WHICH IT HAS ALREADY DONE FOR US AND FOR THAT WHICH IT WILL DO IN THE FUTURE, BUT AT THE SAME TIME WE HOPE FOR A LESS OBSCURE POSITION ON THE PART OF THE POPE."BEAUDRY

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